

Division (X-56, Room 6401), U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, (202) 366-5347.

Dated: October 14, 1998.

Charles A. Hunnicutt,

Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 98-28034 Filed 10-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Proposed Advisory Circular 25.803-1A, Emergency Evacuation Demonstrations

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Proposed Advisory Circular (AC) 25.803-1A and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of and requests comments on a proposed advisory circular (AC) which provides guidance on a means, but not the only means, of compliance with the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) concerning (1) conduct of full-scale emergency evacuation demonstrations, and (2) use of analysis and tests in lieu of conducting an actual demonstration. This notice is necessary to give all interested persons an opportunity to present their views on the proposed AC.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 21, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments on proposed AC to: Federal Aviation Administration, Attention: Frank Tiangsing, Propulsion, Mechanical Systems and Crashworthiness Branch, ANM-112, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, 1601 Lind Avenue SW, Renton, WA 98055-4056. Comments may be inspected at the above address between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Katherine Burks, Transport Standards Staff, at the address above, telephone (206) 227-2114.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

A copy of the draft AC may be obtained by contacting the person named above under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed AC by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may

desire. Commenters should identify AC 25.803-1A and submit comments, in duplicate, to the address specified above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments will be considered by the Transport Standards Staff before issuing the final AC.

Discussion

Section 25.803(c) requires that for airplanes with a passenger seating capacity of more than 44 passengers, it must be shown that the passengers and required crewmembers can be evacuated to the ground in 90 seconds under simulated emergency conditions. Compliance can be shown by conducting a full-scale emergency evacuation demonstration under the test conditions specified in Appendix J of part 25 or a combination of analysis and testing found acceptable by the FAA. Advisory Circular 25.803-1, issued on November 13, 1989, provided guidance on how to conduct a full-scale emergency evacuation demonstration and the use of analysis and testing in lieu of conducting a full-scale demonstration. This proposed revision to the AC provides additional guidance on how to conduct a full-scale demonstration, including information on the test start signal, briefing of test participants, obtaining informed consent, and flight attendant training. In addition, the proposed revision expands the discussion on the determination on whether a combination of analysis and testing may be used in lieu of the full-scale demonstration, including the types of testing which may be necessary to support an analysis. Finally, additional guidance is provided on what and how information and test data should be provided in an analysis.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on October 8, 1998.

John J. Hickey,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, ANM-100.

[FR Doc. 98-28040 Filed 10-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee; Transport Airplane and Engine Issues—New Tasks

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of new task assignments for the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC).

SUMMARY: Notice is given of new tasks assigned to and accepted by the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC). This notice informs the public of the activities of ARAC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Stewart R. Miller, Transport Standards Staff (ANM-110), Federal Aviation Administration, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, WA 98055-4056; phone (425) 227-1255; fax (425) 227-1320.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The FAA has established an Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee to provide advice and recommendations to the FAA Administrator, through the Associate Administrator for Regulation and Certification, on the full range of the FAA's rulemaking activities with respect to aviation-related issues. This includes obtaining advice and recommendations on the FAA's commitment to harmonize its Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) and practices with its trading partners in Europe and Canada.

One area ARAC deals with is Transport Airplane and Engine Issues. These issues involve the airworthiness standards for transport category airplanes and engines in 14 CFR parts 25, 33, and 35 and parallel provisions in 14 CFR parts 121 and 135.

The Tasks

This notice is to inform the public that the FAA has asked ARAC to provide advice and recommendation on the following harmonization tasks:

Task 11: Safety and Failure Analysis

1. JAR-E requires a summary listing of all failures which result in major or hazardous effects and an estimate of the probability of occurrence of these major and hazardous effects. Part 33 requires an assessment of failures which lead to four specified hazards.

2. JAR requires a list of assumptions and the substantiation of those assumptions. Most of the JAR-E assumptions are covered by other Part 33 paragraphs.

3. JAR-E includes a unique hazard, "toxic bleed air".

4. While both regulations require analysis to examine malfunctions and single and multiple failures. Part 33 also requires an examination of improper operation.

The FAA expects ARAC to submit its recommendation(s) resulting from this task by January 31, 2000.